

Reference Guide #7

How to Search LexisNexis Congressional

The LexisNexis Congressional database provides full-text access to documents of the Senate and the House of Representatives. It includes bills, laws, testimony, Committee prints, hearings, reports, legislative histories, and voting records of members of Congress.

PART I: ACCESSING LexisNexis Congressional

Go to the NWC Library Homepage < http://www.nwc.navy.mil/library/, click *Databases*, and select the link *LexisNexis Congressional* found either in the Subject List under "Law" or in the Alphabetical List. You can also reach LexisNexis Congressional from LexisNexis Academic or from LexisNexis Statistical by clicking the link under "Search for Other Information."

PART II: SEARCHING LexisNexis Congressional

LexisNexis automatically opens up to the Congressional Publications basic search form. There are 6 Search Forms. You should **select** the Search Form suitable for the document you need.



Choose the appropriate Search Form

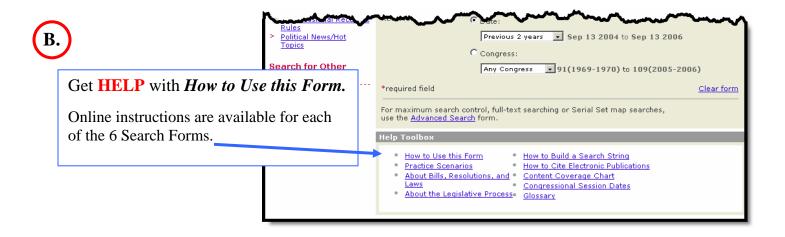
Contents of the Search Forms:

1. Congressional Publications. Search for Committee hearings (testimony), Committee prints, CRS reports, House & Senate documents, House & Senate reports, and legislative histories.



- **2. Legislative Histories, Bills & Laws.** Search for legislative histories, bill tracking, bill text, floor votes, public laws, and U.S. Code.
- **3. Members & Committees.** Search for the voting records, bill sponsorship, financial disclosures, campaign contributions, and profiles of House and Senate members.
- **4. Regulations.** Search the Code of Federal Regulations and the Federal Register.
- **5.** Congressional Record & Rules. Search the Congressional Record and Congressional rules.
- **6. Political News/Hot Topics.** Search for articles on newsworthy bills and topics in the *Washington Post*, *Roll Call*. and *The Hill*.

NOTE: See "Content Coverage Chart" for specific date ranges included in each category.



(C.)

Enter search terms, dates, and numbers as needed in the appropriate search boxes.

Lexis Nexis Search Term Operators

• AND, OR, AND NOT

naval and warfare finds articles containing both terms: naval; warfare
naval or warfare finds articles containing either term: naval; warfare
naval and not warfare finds articles containing the term naval without the word warfare

- DO NOT USE QUOTES FOR PHRASES. Two terms can be used in proximity without quotes.
 naval warfare searches for the phrase naval warfare
- Use w/n to find terms within "n" number of words of each other.
 law w/3 sea finds law within 3 words of sea
 weapons w/3 destruction finds weapons within 3 words of destruction
- Use! to truncate terms. The computer searches for terms with variant endings. terror! finds terrorist; terrorists; terrorism navigat! finds navigate; navigation; navigator
- Use * for each letter you need to substitute within a word.
 wom*n finds women; woman
 nav** finds navy; naval; but not navies
- For a complete list of search term operators, see LexisNexis "Help" links.

Please see a Reference Librarian for further assistance.